

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 04750 270733Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 /035 W
-----050765 272102Z /64

R 270657Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2500

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDI PARTICIPATION IN JOINT ARAB AIR SERVICE

REF: (A) JIDDA 4205 (B) STATE 156146 (C) AMMAN 5557

1. SAUDI POSITION TOWARD PROPOSED JOINT ARAB AIR SERVICE TO U.S. CONTINUES TO BE AS DESCRIBED REFTEL A: THEY WISH TO DO NOTHING WHICH WOULD PREJUDICE THEIR PREFERRED COURSE OF OPEININ THEIR OWN FLAG SERVICE TO U.S. WE UNDERSTAND FROM SAUDI VP HAKEEM THAT HE PROBABLY WILL ACCOMPANY GHANDOUR TO WASHINGTON (REFS B& C), BUT HE IS DESCRIBING HIS PARTICIPATION AS STEMMING FROM HIS POSITION AS CHAIRMAN OF THE STEERING GROUP RATHER THAN AS REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AIRLINE.

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2. ON THE SUBJECT OF SAUDI-U.S. DIRECT FLIGHTS, SAUDIA HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING OVER PAST WEEKS WITH BOTH TWA AND PANAM REPS. APOUT POSSIBLE BLOCKED-SEAT ARRANGEMENTS ON PROPOSED US-DHAHRAN SERIVCES. IF THE PRICE IS RIGHT, SAUDI MAY PERMIT ONE OF THE TWO TO MOUNT TEMPORARY SERIVCE BEFORE NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL. BOTH COMPANIES ARE

MAKING POTIMISTIC NOISES HERE (TWA PROPOSES TO FLY VIA
BARCELONA, PANAM DIRECT WITH 747-SP EQUIPMENT), BUT WE
FRANKLY DO NOT KNOW WHICH ONE HAS THE BETTER CHANCE IF
REPEAT IF SAUDIS DECIDE TO TAKE THIS COURSE OF ACTION.
BRANIFF'S RECENT CAB FILING FOR US-SAUDI RIGHTS HAS
UNDOUBTEDLY COMPLICATED THE ISSUE.
WEST

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 27 jun 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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